CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of displaying condition information which changes from time to time in a system transmitting and receiving the condition information from terminals connected to a network and displaying the condition information using a display unit, the system performing a process comprising:

storing a reference time for determining a freshness of the condition information in a terminal which receives the condition information from other terminals through the network;

determining the freshness of the condition information based on an elapsed time from said reference time; and

determining depending on the freshness of the condition information a display mode of the condition information, wherein the display unit displays the display mode of the condition information and a user can observe at a glance reliability of the condition information.

2. A method of displaying condition information as claimed in claim 1, wherein determining the freshness comprises:

calculating a difference between the time the terminal receives the condition information from the other terminals and the time the other terminals reference the condition information in the terminal receiving the condition information; and

determining a freshness level of the condition information depending upon a preset rule.

3. A condition display system transmitting and receiving condition information which changes from time to time from terminals connected to a network and displaying the condition information using a display unit, comprising:

a storage unit storing a reference time for determining a freshness of the condition information in a terminal which receives the condition information from other terminals

through the network;

a freshness determination unit determining the freshness of the condition information based on the elapsed time from said reference time; and

a display controlling unit determining depending on the freshness of the condition information a display mode of the condition information, wherein the display unit displays the display mode of the condition information and a user can observe at a glance reliability of the condition information.

4. A condition display system as claimed in claim 3, wherein the freshness determining unit determines the freshness by calculating a difference between the time the terminal receives the condition information from the other terminals and the time the other terminals reference the condition information in the terminal receiving the condition information and determining a freshness level of the condition information depending upon a preset rule.

5. A condition display system as claimed in claim 3, wherein line widths of figure data corresponding to the display mode of the condition information are thick upon update of the condition information and line widths of the figure data are thinner as the freshness level deteriorates.

6. A condition display system as claimed in claim 3, wherein size of figure data corresponding to the display mode of the condition information are large upon update of the condition information and size of the figure data are smaller as the freshness level deteriorates

7. A condition display system as claimed in claim 3, wherein a mark is added to each figure data corresponding to the display mode of the condition information and the mark is bold upon update of the condition information and the mark is lighter as the freshness level deteriorates.

8. A hand-held communication terminal connected to a network automatically receiving through the network, at one of any time and in a predetermined timing, condition information automatically transmitted through the network from a terminal receiving the condition information from other terminals, at one of any time and in the predetermined timing, the hand-held communication terminal performing a process comprising:

displaying a display mode of the condition information received through the network; and

changing the display mode of the condition information depending on a passage of time as freshness information.

9. A hand-held communication terminal as claimed in claim 8, further comprising a process of determining the passage of time as the freshness information by calculating a difference between a current time and a time the terminal receives the condition information.

10. A hand-held communication terminal as claimed in claim 8, further comprising a process of determining the passage of time as the freshness information by calculating a difference between a current time and a time the hand-held communication terminal receives the condition information.

11. A hand-held communication terminal as claimed in claim 8, further comprising a process of determining the passage of time as the freshness information by calculating a difference between a time the terminal receives the condition information and a time the hand-held communication terminal receives the condition information.

12. A hand-held communication terminal as claimed in claim 8, wherein the condition information is condition information of a user.

13. A hand-held communication terminal as claimed in claim 8, wherein the condition information is condition information of a group of users and users in the group.

14. A method of displaying condition information which changes from time to time in a condition information management system transmitting and receiving the condition information from terminals connected to a network, comprising:

storing in a terminal the condition information received from other terminals;

determining display mode changing information; and

transmitting automatically the condition information received by the terminal and the display mode changing information to the other terminals through the network.

15. A method of displaying condition information as claimed in claim 14, further comprising determining freshness of the condition information by calculating a difference between a time the terminal receives the condition information from the other terminals and a time the terminal transmits the condition information to the other terminals; and

determining depending on the freshness of the condition information a display mode of the condition information, wherein the terminal transmits to the other terminals the display mode of the condition information as the display mode changing information.

16. A method of displaying condition information as claimed in claim 14, wherein the terminal transmits automatically the condition information received by the terminal to the other terminals through the network upon receiving a condition information request from the other terminals.

17. A method of displaying condition information as claimed in claim 14, wherein the terminal transmits automatically the condition information received by the terminal to the other terminals through the network in a predetermined timing to a predetermined list of the other

terminals.

18. A method of displaying condition information as claimed in claim 17, wherein the terminal storing the condition information receives from the other terminals a condition information notification request comprising terminal destinations and registers the terminal destinations included the request in the predetermined list of the other terminals.

19. A method of displaying condition information as claimed in claim 14, wherein the terminal transmits to the other terminals a time the terminal receives the condition information as the display mode changing information.

20. A method of displaying condition information as claimed in claim 15, wherein the terminal receives condition information of a user and the terminal transmits automatically the condition information of the user received by the terminal to the other terminals through the network upon receiving a condition information request from the other terminals, further comprising a process of:

storing identifying information of the user in a reference user list upon receiving the condition information request; and

displaying a figure mark corresponding to the display mode of the condition information of each user depending on users in the reference user list issuing the condition information request.

21. A computer readable recording medium having a system transmitting and receiving the condition information from terminals connected to a network and displaying the condition information using a display unit, the system performing a process comprising:

storing a time a terminal receives the condition information from other terminals through the network;

determining freshness of the condition information at a time the other terminals through the network reference the condition information in the terminal receiving the condition information; and

determining depending on the freshness of the condition information a display mode of the condition information, wherein the display unit displays the display mode of the condition information and a user can observe at a glance reliability of the condition information.

22. A hand-held communication terminal connected to a network automatically receiving through the network condition information automatically transmitted through the network from a terminal receiving the condition information from other terminals and the hand-held communication terminal displaying the condition information using a display unit, comprising:

a freshness determination unit determining freshness of the condition information received by the hand-held communication terminal through the network from the terminal; and

a display controlling unit determining depending on the freshness of the condition information a display mode of the condition information, wherein the display unit displays the display mode of the condition information.

23. A hand-held communication terminal as claimed in claim 22, wherein the freshness determination unit calculates a difference between a current time and a time the terminal receives the condition information for determining freshness of the condition information.

24. A hand-held communication terminal as claimed in claim 22, wherein the freshness determination unit calculates a difference between a current time and a time the hand-held communication terminal receives the condition information for determining freshness of the condition information.

25. A hand-held communication terminal as claimed in claim 22, wherein the freshness determination unit calculates a difference between a time the terminal receives the condition information and a time the hand-held communication terminal receives the condition information for determining the freshness of the condition information.

26. A hand-held communication terminal as claimed in claim 22, wherein the condition information is condition information of a user.

27. A hand-held communication terminal as claimed in claim 22, wherein the condition information is condition information of a group of users and users in the group.

28. A hand-held communication terminal as claimed in claim 22, wherein the terminal transmits automatically the condition information received by the terminal to the hand-held communication terminal through the network upon receiving a condition information request from the hand-held communication terminal.

29. A hand-held communication terminal as claimed in claim 22, wherein the terminal transmits automatically the condition information received by the terminal to the hand-held communication terminal through the network in a predetermined timing.

30. A hand-held communication terminal as claimed in claim 22, wherein the terminal receives condition information of a user and the terminal transmits automatically the condition information of the user received by the terminal to the hand-held communication terminal through the network upon receiving a condition information request from the hand-held communication terminal, wherein the terminal comprises:

an acquiring request processing unit storing identifying information of other users issuing condition information requests corresponding to the condition information of the user

in a reference user list upon receiving the condition information requests from the other users and the terminal references the reference user list and automatically transmits to the hand-held communication unit, in addition to the condition information of the user, the identifying information of the other users issuing the condition information requests corresponding to the condition information of the user; and

the display controlling unit determines a figure mark corresponding to the display mode of the condition information of the user, depending on the other users issuing the condition information requests corresponding to the condition information of the user, and the display unit displays the figure mark corresponding to the display mode of the condition information of the user.

31. A method of displaying in a display mode condition information which changes from time to time in a condition information management system transmitting and receiving the condition information from terminals connected to a network, comprising a process of:

storing in a terminal a reference time corresponding to a time the terminal receives the condition information from another terminal; and

changing the display mode of the condition information depending on timeliness information of the condition information determined using the reference time and a rule, upon receiving a request from the terminals to display the condition information.

32. A display, comprising a graphical user interface showing a display mode of user condition information and timeliness of the user condition information depending on passage of time.

33. A method of displaying on a screen of a computer terminal an awareness information of a person using other computer terminal connected to a network, the method performing a process comprising:

storing a reference time for determining a freshness of the awareness information in a terminal which receives the awareness information from other terminals through the network;

determining freshness of the awareness information based on an elapsed time from said reference time; and

determining depending on the freshness of the awareness information a display mode of the awareness information, wherein said awareness information is displayed with a variable icon pattern according to said display mode and a suer of said terminal can observe at a glance reliability of the awareness information.